

work. Since its creation, NPI has helped USAID expand its collaboration with local nonprofits to undertake critical work overseas, but this vital program needs a clearly defined foundation in statute and long-term authorization of funding to sustain its progress well beyond 2021.

Today, I am pleased to introduce the New Partnerships Initiative Authorization Act with Senator RUBIO. This legislation would cement USAID's commitment to diversifying its nonprofit partner base by authorizing the program and necessary funding through Fiscal Year 2026. Additionally, the New Partnerships Initiative Authorization Act would improve outcomes at the NPI program by outlining in statute core elements of the program, and requiring the USAID Administrator to adhere to certain criteria regarding program management and nonprofit recruitment.

This bipartisan legislation is an opportunity to ensure that the New Partnerships Initiative continues to be an effective tool for diversifying USAID's partner base through the inclusion of locally based and underutilized partners. I look forward to working with USAID leadership and my colleagues on the Foreign Relations Committee to swiftly consider and implement the New Partnerships Initiative Authorization Act.

Thank you, Mr. President.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 2513. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the application and review process of the Department of Veterans Affairs for clothing allowance claims submitted by veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I rise today to tell you about Brian Neuman, an Iraq combat veteran who was wounded while serving our Nation overseas in 2004.

Brian has spent years working with the Wounded Warrior Project to help other veterans get the benefits that they need.

Years after returning home, Brian applied for an annual clothing allowance of \$841. This allowance should be available to veterans like Brian when a medication or a medical device causes irregular wear or damage to their clothing.

As many vets with service injuries will tell you, their clothes wear down much faster than other people's, and the prosthetics can rip or tear clothes as well. Some veterans need tailoring to make clothing fit more comfortably around their injuries. Others have to treat skin conditions with creams that damage their clothes.

These veterans get compensation for the expenses associated with their injuries—and rightly so. Our veterans have given this country so much, and Congress has a responsibility to hold up its end of the bargain, to care for them

when they are injured during their service to our Nation.

But right now, this benefit isn't accessible for many veterans, and that is wrong, and we need to change it.

In the case of the clothing allowance benefits, as Brian discovered, the VA currently requires veterans to be evaluated for this benefit in person, every year. One year, Brian physically went to a VA clinic to submit the clothing allowance application, and his request was denied because the VA had no record that he received a prosthetic at that specific clinic. At that point, like many vets, Brian gave up on the process in frustration.

That is just unacceptable. These are brave men and women who are living with severe burns or who wear prosthetic devices as a result of their service. In many cases, the VA already knows these veterans have a medical condition that isn't going to change year from year.

And that didn't make any sense to Brian, so he did something about it. He reached out to see if Congress could solve the problem. He did. He did it, he says, less for himself, but more for the many veterans in rural States, like mine in Nevada, who live hours away from the nearest VA. Brian knows that many of them are so worn out by the process of applying for what is owed them that they just give up.

These men and women are tired of jumping through hoops to access their earned benefits. So why are we forcing them to navigate this complicated bureaucracy? There are certainly places to cut costs, but this isn't one of them.

The Senate can fix this problem easily, and I have introduced a bipartisan bill to do just that. I am glad to be working across the aisle with my colleague Senator BOOZMAN to support injured and disabled veterans. Our bill makes it easier for them to get clothing that works for their specific needs. My legislation requires the VA to automatically renew this clothing allowance. Veterans can get it until they say they don't need it anymore or until the VA's records indicate that they don't require it. This will make sure they aren't forced to drive long distances to access a VA benefit they are owed.

I am looking forward to moving this legislation through Congress so we can make life a little easier for the 40,000 wounded warriors who currently receive this benefit and for the thousands more who qualify. There shouldn't be any redtape stopping veterans from getting their benefits, so let's pass this bill and fix this problem.

I am going to continue to work in every way I can to make sure that veterans in Nevada and across the country get the Federal resources they need.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 325—RECOGNIZING THE SERIOUSNESS OF POLYCYSTIC OVARY SYNDROME (PCOS) AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 2021 AS "PCOS AWARENESS MONTH"

Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. BALDWIN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. LANKFORD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 325

Whereas polycystic ovary syndrome (referred to in this preamble as "PCOS") is a common health problem among women and girls involving a hormonal imbalance;

Whereas there is no universal definition of PCOS, but researchers estimate that between 5,000,000 and 10,000,000 women in the United States are affected by the condition;

Whereas, according to a 2004 study, the annual burden of PCOS in the United States is an estimated \$4,360,000,000, and this figure pertains to only the reproductive years of women and does not consider the cost of other comorbidities, including obstetrical complications, or the cost of metabolic morbidities in post-menopause or adolescence;

Whereas PCOS can affect girls at the onset of puberty and throughout the remainder of their lives;

Whereas the symptoms of PCOS include infertility, irregular or absent menstrual periods, acne, weight gain, thinning of scalp hair, excessive facial and body hair growth, numerous small ovarian cysts, pelvic pain, and mental health problems;

Whereas women with PCOS have higher rates of mental health disorders, including depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, and eating disorders, and are at greater risk for suicide;

Whereas adolescents with PCOS often are not diagnosed, and many have metabolic dysfunction and insulin resistance, which can lead to type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, obstructive sleep apnea, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, and endometrial cancer at a young adult age;

Whereas PCOS is the most common cause of female infertility;

Whereas PCOS in pregnancy is associated with increased risk of gestational diabetes, preeclampsia, pregnancy-induced hypertension, preterm delivery, cesarean delivery, miscarriage, and fetal and infant death;

Whereas women with PCOS are at increased risk of developing high blood pressure, high cholesterol, stroke, and heart disease (the leading cause of death among women);

Whereas women with PCOS have a more than 50 percent chance of developing type 2 diabetes or prediabetes before the age of 40;

Whereas women with PCOS may be at a higher risk for breast cancer and ovarian cancer, and their risk for developing endometrial cancer is 3 times higher than women who do not have PCOS;

Whereas research has found genetic evidence of a link between depression and PCOS;

Whereas research has indicated PCOS shares a genetic architecture with metabolic

traits, as evidenced by genetic correlations between PCOS and obesity, fasting insulin, type 2 diabetes, lipid levels, and coronary artery disease;

Whereas adolescents with PCOS are at markedly increased risk for type 2 diabetes, fatty liver disease, and heart disease;

Whereas PCOS negatively alters metabolic function independent of, but exacerbated by, an increased body mass index (BMI);

Whereas an estimated 50 percent of women with PCOS are undiagnosed, and many remain undiagnosed until they experience fertility difficulties or develop type 2 diabetes or other cardiometabolic disorders;

Whereas the cause of PCOS is unknown, but researchers have found strong links to a genetic predisposition and significant insulin resistance, which affects up to 70 percent of women with PCOS; and

Whereas there is no known cure for PCOS: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes polycystic ovary syndrome (referred to in this resolution as “PCOS”) as a serious disorder that impacts many aspects of health, including cardiometabolic, reproductive, and mental health, and quality of life;

(2) expresses support for the designation of September 2021 as “PCOS Awareness Month”;

(3) supports the goals and ideals of PCOS Awareness Month, which are—

(A) to increase awareness of, and education about, PCOS and its connection to comorbidities, such as type 2 diabetes, endometrial cancer, cardiovascular disease, nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, and mental health disorders, among the general public, women, girls, and health care professionals;

(B) to improve diagnosis and treatment of PCOS;

(C) to disseminate information on diagnosis, treatment, and management of PCOS, including prevention of comorbidities such as type 2 diabetes, endometrial cancer, cardiovascular disease, nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, and eating disorders; and

(D) to improve quality of life and outcomes for women and girls with PCOS;

(4) recognizes the need for further research, improved treatment and care options, and a cure for PCOS;

(5) acknowledges the struggles affecting all women and girls afflicted with PCOS in the United States;

(6) urges medical researchers and health care professionals to advance their understanding of PCOS to improve research, diagnosis, and treatment of PCOS for women and girls; and

(7) encourages States, territories, and localities to support the goals and ideals of PCOS Awareness Month.

SENATE RESOLUTION 326—COMMEMORATING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF PERU

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. KAINE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 326

Whereas July 2021 marks two centuries of Peru's independence from Spain, an occasion also referred to as “Las Fiestas Patrias”;

Whereas Peru's proclamation of independence in July 1821 marked a historical turning point at a time when countries in the hemisphere were collectively on a quest for independence and freedom;

Whereas Peru's Act of Independence was written by Manuel Pérez de Tudela—a prominent Peruvian attorney and patriot—and took place in Lima on July 15, 1821;

Whereas, on July 28, 1821, José Francisco de San Martín—an Argentine General who helped propel independence movements in the region and who played a pivotal role in Peru's independence—proclaimed at the Plaza de Armas, “Since this moment, Peru is free and independent by the general will of the people and by justice of their cause that God defends. Long live the Homeland! Long live freedom! Long live independence!”;

Whereas the road to Peru's independence consisted of a long and arduous process, initiated decades prior through the various uprisings of mestizo and indigenous populations who protested their oppression and sought to improve their rights and livelihoods;

Whereas Peru's proclamation of independence marked the beginning of the people of Peru's quest to establish a government committed to advancing the democratic rights and prosperity of its citizens;

Whereas the United States established diplomatic relations with Peru in 1827 and today both countries enjoy a strategic partnership based on shared democratic values and interests of democratic governance, the rule of law, security, economic prosperity, and human rights;

Whereas the bonds of association and friendship between the peoples of the two countries have been strengthened by the large number of Peruvians who have migrated to the United States where they make significant contributions to both the United States and Peru; and

Whereas Peruvians and Peruvian-Americans residing in the United States have enriched and added to the United States way of life in the social, economic, and political arenas, and Peru's rich identity and heritage have become an integral part of the cultural tapestry of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 200th anniversary of the independence of Peru;

(2) recognizes the historical significance of Peru's independence in the Western Hemisphere and reaffirms its commitment to supporting the people of Peru in their quest for further development, stability, and prosperity;

(3) expresses support for the principles of democratic governance to which the people of Peru are committed; and

(4) celebrates the contributions that Peruvians and Peruvian Americans have made in the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 327—AMENDING THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE TO REQUIRE INFLATIONARY IMPACT STATEMENTS IN COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. BRAUN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 327

Resolved, That paragraph 11 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraph (c) as subparagraph (d);

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (b) the following:

“(c) Each committee report shall also contain a detailed analytical statement as to

whether, and the extent to which, the increased budget authority, outlays, or revenue produced by the enactment of the bill or joint resolution into law may have an inflationary impact on prices and costs in the operation of the national economy. The statement shall also include whether, and the extent to which, the inflationary impact would affect the purchasing power of low and middle income families.”; and

(3) in subparagraph (d), as so redesignated, by striking “subparagraphs (a) and (b)” and inserting “subparagraphs (a), (b), and (c)”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I have 12 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, at 9 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, July 28, 2021 at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session